



when you get here you understand

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 Children's Programs
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RED DEER COLLEGE CHILD CARE CENTRE

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February 2012						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Kinder Registration & Spring/Fall Intent Forms	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 Family Tea	17	18
19	20 Family Day College Closed	21	22	23	24	25
Mid Term Break—Centre is Open						
26	27 Classes Resume	28	29			

March 2012						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6 Emergency Response Day	7	8	9 No Kindergarten	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 <i>Spring</i>	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Our Mission Statement

Red Deer College Children's Program is committed to
 quality caring and teaching of your children.

FROM THE OFFICE



We hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas with your family and friends.

We all enjoyed our winter break and look forward to a rewarding and fun-filled year!

After having such mild weather and getting use to light jackets and shoes; mother nature gave us a taste of winter. Alberta style! With this colder weather upon us please remember to bring snow pants, mitts and hats marked with your child's name. We will go out if it warms to 20 degrees Celsius. Who knows what we weather we will be getting next.



Please ensure that your footwear is dry and clean before going into the Child Care rooms. Your help with this is much appreciated.

Sick Policy Changes

The government is now requiring child care centres to be more diligent in reporting illnesses in their Centre, whether becoming ill while in care or call in sick.

For each child sent home sick or that calls in sick the staff will

take the message or make the call in order to complete the Illness Report Form



The Director must report all illnesses to Alberta Health Services when 2 children, or 2 staff or 1 child & 1 staff or more present the same symptoms within 48 hours.

When a child has to be picked up due to illness – the parent will receive the information sheet from the government on illness in child care. The child needs to **remain at home 24 hours** after symptoms subside.

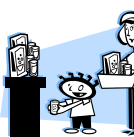


Going back to December... We



hope you enjoyed the Winter Celebration Concert. Thank you to all the staff for all their help in organizing the evening and to the children for their amazing singing. Most certainly all stars in the making!!

Helping Hands Food Drive



Sharon entered the Centre in the Annual Helping Hands Food Drive. Thank you for all your support in bringing in

donations to help our families in need. We had a tremendous response! The boxes were overflowing with your generosity. The children that were here that day sang for the college staff. They are always a big hit!

Family Tea in February

We will be holding a Family Tea on February 16 at 2:15p.m. Watch for more information on the bulletin board in your child's room.



WELCOME Practicum Students

Please welcome our winter term students. Feel free to introduce yourselves to them.

Balloon Room - Lisa is a 2nd year student and will be with us on Monday, Wednesday & Friday and Kirby is in her 1st year and she will be with us Tuesday & Thursday.

Rainbow Room - Brittney is in her 1st year and she will be in on Monday & Wednesday.

Congratulations Mary!



We are pleased to announce that Mary will be celebrating 20 years at the Centre on January 31. Mary began as

a part time Care Giver and then took a position as a Kindergarten Aid. It wasn't long before her talents in the kitchen were evident and she was then hired as "THE COOK." We are so lucky to have her with us to keep us healthy and full! We love you!

KINDERGARTEN INFORMATION

Please note that there will be **no Kindergarten on March 9, 2012**. Mrs. S., Aimee', Christal. Seantell and Lynette will be attending Handwriting without Tears workshop. This program was developed by a Occupational Therapist, Jan Olsen. She developed this program when her son was struggling. It is a full proof way to do printing. It uses 1 big line, 1 big curve, 1 little line and 1 little curve to learn to print letters. Mrs. S, Joan, is using this program in the kindergarten class and she is finding it to be very successful with the children. For more information visit: www.hwtears.com

The Kindergarten Registration forms need to be returned by **February 2**. Please include a copy of your child's birth certificate.



- Small class sizes
- Certified Teacher and Early Learning and Child Care Assistant

APPLY NOW!


We are accepting registration for our morning and afternoon Kindergarten. Please register by February 2, 2012.

The morning Kindergarten cost is \$20.00 registration fee / No child care is included.

The afternoon Kindergarten is \$20.00 registration fee plus child care fees.

Parents as Partners in Reading


Reading can be a family affair. When you read, you help create an environment that encourages reading in your home. Children imitate and usually want to copy the accomplishments and activities of adults. Here are some suggestions on how to encourage literacy. Happy reading!

⇒ Call attention to colours, shapes and situations in books and relate them to your child's experiences. 

⇒ Give your child time to talk to you. Listen to your child.

⇒ Enjoy the sound of words. Repeat phrases that appeal to your child's sense of humour or that create a picture with words.

⇒ Read and memorize nursery rhymes. Read poetry together.

⇒ Take pictures of your child involved in daily activities. Put these into a home-made book. Let your child dictate the words that tell what he/she is doing and you write them underneath. 

⇒ Let your child help you cook. Read recipes together.


⇒ Have a poem for dessert. Each member of the family chooses a favourite poem to read.

⇒ Read to your children from infancy.

⇒ Hold your child close to you and read together every day, even if it is for just a few minutes. Your child will associate books with feelings of warmth and security.

⇒ Make a flannel board. Cut out some simple characters from a magazine. Put sandpaper on the back of paper figures or use pellen or flannel. Keep it simple but give your child time to retell a favourite story or make up an original tale to fit the flannel objects. 


⇒ Make a poetry book of favourite poems that can be illustrated with original drawings by children and parents or illustrate with photographs.

⇒ Read books, newspapers and magazines where your child can see you. If children know that reading is important to their parents, they are more likely to think that reading is an activity for both pleasure and for finding out about their world. 


⇒ Dramatize stories. Take parts. Sing songs.


⇒ Call attention to signs and la-

bels. Say the words – your child can repeat them. Point to the words so he/she begins to connect the written symbol with the sound.

⇒ Make certain that there is a quiet place in your home without radios, stereos, television sets, telephones and computers. This may be a corner in a large room or even a place in a bedroom that is free from noise. 

⇒ Once a week, plan a "sustained silent reading time" when the whole family reads. Don't answer the phone during this 15-minute period.

⇒ Use motions and make sure your child feels the rhythm of the music. Clapping, tapping, walking, skipping, running in time to music are fun and good exercise. 

⇒ Regularly visit the local public library together. Arrange for each child to have his/her own library card. Ask the librarian for suggestions for stories, rhymes and poetry. 

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Parent Feedback


We always welcome any suggestions or concerns that you may have. **Your input only makes us better at what we do.** If you have any items that you would like to share with us, please drop your idea in the locked box outside the Child Care Center.

Let us know how we are doing and if we are meeting you and your child's needs. We always welcome you being involved with the program. If you would like to participate in any way (join us for lunch, cook a traditional recipe from home, be a guest speaker, read a story, etc.) please let us know.

Date: _____ Name:(optional): _____

Balloon Room News

We are off to a great start in 2012! The children came back rested and ready to learn and play.

 We have some buried treasure hidden within our sand box and some treasure boxes to fill with the treasure. Being a pirate is fun work!

With all the babies being born or coming in the near future the children in our room have taken a keen interest in caring, changing, washing and cuddling the baby dolls in our housekeeping and Water Table Centers.



Family Group Time

The children in the room are exploring who they are in relation to others in their world.

Christal's Family Group


We have been talking about our bodies and the relationships we share with our families and



friends. We have talked about the importance of respecting our bodies and what kind of touching is appropriate and how we can express our feelings if you are being touched inappropriately. It's okay to say "Its my body and I don't

like it." To build self confidence over the next few weeks we are planning on creating and learning about puppets. We will be putting on our own puppet shows. The children are learning the classics ; The 3 Little Pigs, Slippery Fish, Goldilocks and the 3 Bears and many more.

Tara's Family Group

 We would like each child to bring in a **baby picture as soon as possible.** We will be discussing how much they have grown and developed and what they were like when they were babies.



Janell's Family Group

The children have been interested in comparing ages and sizes between each other. We are reading about how our bodies grow and what it means to grow up. We also charted our height and will revisit it in a couple of months to see how much we have grown.

If you have any questions or suggestions, our door is always open. Please don't hesitate to ask one of us.

Tara, Janelle and Maria

Rainbow Room News



The children started out the year with so much energy a positive attitude!

Even though the weather has been very cold, we have had many opportunities to the gym and take many walks around the college. Thank you for bundling up your children during the cold snap.



We have been doing different activities in the room. The volcano project was very exciting for the children. The children had many questions about why

volcanoes erupt and how to make their own volcano.

Spiders were also discussed. The questions included; Why do spiders look like that? Where do they make their webs? How do they make a web? And many more. They are very curious and will make great scientists one day.



During Family Group time the children are learning about the importance of acceptance, respect, cooperation and integrity to their friends. We have been reading stories and

inventing games about these values.

When the weather warms up we are going to head to the pet store. We are going to purchase a Betta fish for the room. This will be a great experience for the children who are learning how to develop empathy with their family, friends their community and to learn to care for animals.



We would like to welcome our practicum student, Brittney, who is a first year student. Please make her

feel welcome by introducing yourselves to her.

A huge congratulations to Nixon's parents on the birth of their new son, Easton on January 18. Nixon is going to be a great big brother!



Our door is always open so please don't hesitate if you have any suggestions, comments or questions.

Aimee', Maria, Mary-Anne and Karen.

Seeds Of Empathy



The theme for the month of December was feeling loved.

Our visit on December 6 was a great learning experience.

The children are getting very observant of the changes in Baby Oliver. We all noticed that he has more hair and more importantly how his body has grown.

We watched Baby Oliver find his toes and even share a laugh with us.



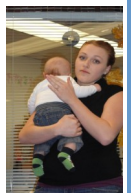
Melissa shared the song, " You are my sunshine." She sings it when Baby Oliver needs extra loving; then we sang it with her the second time.

The children shared with everyone what makes them feel loved.

Oliver wasn't able to come in January because he was not feeling good.

We are sure to see many more changes when we see Baby Oliver in February.

The next theme is feeling angry.





We are offering Parent/Caregiver Conferences that will take place the week of March 12 – 16 during our regular hours of operation. This is a great time to find out how your child is doing in care and to address any questions or concerns you may have. These meetings are optional and will be made available at the parent's request.

If you would like to book an appointment with your child's primary caregiver please contact Lynette before March 9 in person, by phone at 403.357.3623 or email at Lynette.Braun@rdc.ab.ca.

Happy New Year — 新年快樂



Jan Underwood from CARE (Central Alberta Refugee Effort) visited the Centre to talk about how New Years is celebrated in China and many other countries. This year is the year of the dragon.

She read stories and brought a stamp that her daughter brought her from China for the children to use. She also brought paper lantern patterns for the children to make.

Did you know that in China they celebrate the New Years for 15 days?

Chinese New Year starts with the New Moon on the first day of the new year and ends on the full moon 15 days later. The 15th day of the new year is called the Lantern Festival, which is celebrated at night with lantern displays and children carrying lanterns in a parade. The celebration actually starts on New Year's Eve with the reunion dinner.

By New Year's Eve, you should have done the following: Clean the entire home to get rid of all the things that are associated with the old year. Put away all brooms and brushes. Pay all your debts. Resolve differences with family members, friends, neighbors and business associates.

Buy the following: red money envelopes, oranges and/or tangerines, circular candy tray flowers (especially plum blossom, peach blossom, water lily), a new set of clothes and shoes for children, preferably something red or orange. Get new dollar bills from the bank. Insert the new dollar bills into the red envelopes. Now the red envelope is called a *lee see* or lucky money envelope.

Gung Hey Fat Choy" which means "Wishing You Prosperity and Wealth. "

For more information visit: www.wikipedia.org



Red Deer Events



Peter Puffin's Whale Tales, aka, Peter Lenton was awarded 2011 Juno Award for Children's Album of the Year. He will be in Red Deer on February 2 for 2 performances. Where: Scott Block, 4816-50 Avenue. Price: \$12 for advance or \$15 at the door.



A special occasion for fathers and daughters (ages 5 to 12 years) to make a memory. One memory of many special father/daughter moments to come. Tickets \$35.00 per person include buffet dinner, photos, dancing, father/daughter fun activities. Limited seating. Where: Bower Kin Community Hall. Call 342-0339 for more information.

life coach and helps here clients find their focus and creates a healthier, happier and more fulfilled life.

Dr. Mary Sheedy Durcinka is a best-selling author and internationally recognized lecturer and educator. Her many books include. *Raising Your Spirited Child*, *Parents and Powers Struggles* and *Is Your CHildre Misbehaving or Missing Sleep* to name a few.



Between January 14 and April 1, 2012, the **Red Deer Museum and Art Gallery** will host:

Uuturautiit: Cape Dorset Celebrates 50 Years of Printmaking. Between February 20th and March 2nd artist, Tim Pit-siulak, will be doing his art in the gallery. For more information call Karin Richardson-Mackenzie at 309-8446. (Artwork on front cover is from Cape Dorset.)

The Maximize Conference 2012 will be held on March 9 and 10 at the Sheraton Hotel in Red Deer. This year's theme is "Attitude is everything." Chance to win a trip to New Orleans with registration. Keynote speakers are Michelle Cederberg. She is a



Conference fee is \$250.00 including supper and entertainment. Door prizes and 50/50 draw. Deadline is February 29. Call Kimmotion Family Day Home at for more information 343-8347.